

Newsletter 18 – Spring 1



Wistaston Academy
Primary and Nursery School
Together We Learn • Together We Achieve

This Week's Events

Date	School Events	International Events
Monday	2 nd Feb 9-10am – Guinness Drop in	
Tuesday	3 rd Yr. 6 Eco Day	
Wednesday	4 th Y5-6 Netball Competition 15:30-17:30 Shavington Academy	
Thursday		
Friday		
Advanced Notice:	KiVa Kindess Revolution Day Wednesday 11 th February Y6 Inspire day Thursday 26 th February World Book Day Wednesday 4 th March	
Polite Notice:	Please note the school office opens at 8.30am each morning and is manned until 4.30pm. Before and after these times, there will be no access to the Main Reception area.	

We are Brilliant Winners

Hubs: Teddy (Hub 3) Franciszek (Hub 4)

EYFS: Dougie (RA), Reuben (RB)

KS1: Nylah (1A), Eadie (1B), Ayla (2A), Freddie (2B)

KS2: Finnley (3A), Elena (3B), George (4A), Musfirah (4B), Diwan (5A), Maja (5B), Bobby (6A), Francis-Lee (6B)

Hub 1

We had fun this week making our own playdough. We've been really enjoying manipulating wet sand in our hands and so had a go at making our own dough to play with and continue the process. We watched as the ingredients were poured in to a big bowl, helped to mix it all together and then requested different colours to add to the mix. When we mixed it, the red and yellow made orange!



Hub 2

As we are learning about the different seasons in Science, we have made Summer trees to add to our class display.



Hub 3

When the children opened up the Magic Story Box this week, they found everything they needed to mix a magical potion inside. Carefully they read each part of the magic spell, following the instructions and adding all of the ingredients on the list. The mixture turned purple, began to bubble and then with an “Abracadabra” and a wave of the wand, the potion was ready!



Hub 4

This week, the children have been working on keeping themselves healthy. They have been thinking about good food choices and have tried some different fruit. They have also been exploring how being active can help us to stay healthy too.



Nursery

This week in Nursery, we have continued on our journey with the boy from our story (Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers). First, we climbed aboard the boat ready for our adventure. Next, we sang some rhymes about being on a boat. Then, we did some junk modelling of boats.



Reception

This week in Story World, we met Princess Pearl. Princess Pearl shared with us what she enjoys doing but explained that she has been inspired by Florence Nightingale and her ambition is to become a doctor.



Year 1

This week, Year 1 have become scientists, we developed the skill of identifying, classifying and grouping. We explored different types of materials and went a hunt around the classroom to identify different materials.



Year 2

This week, we have created a PowerPoint presentation using laptops to teach other people about the effect of climate change on the habitats of pandas. We inserted images, and typed the text for our presentation slides and are looking forward to presenting them to Year 1.



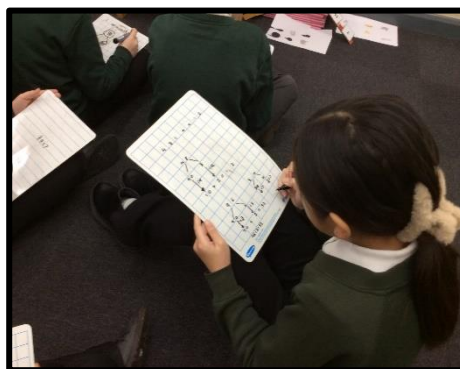
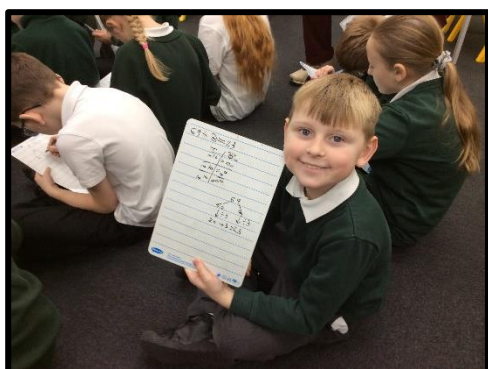
Year 3

This week, Year 3 have set up an experiment to investigate how to dehydrate mango. They have put some in a dehydrator and some will be left to air dry. Over the next few days, they will be watching what happens carefully.



Year 4

This week, Year 4 have been working hard on dividing 2-digit and 3-digit numbers. We have focused on efficiently partitioning numbers and carefully thinking about multiples to help us solve problems with confidence. The children have shown great perseverance and are becoming increasingly more confident in their division strategies.



Year 5

In our history lesson, we learnt about Alfred 'the great' king of the Anglo-Saxons. We spoke about how the Viking and Anglo-Saxon periods of history interlink and how the Anglo-Saxons spent many years fighting Viking invaders in England. We learnt all about king Alfred and why he could be considered a great or not-so-great king. We created a class list of our ideas, discussed our thoughts and opinions and finally had a class debate.

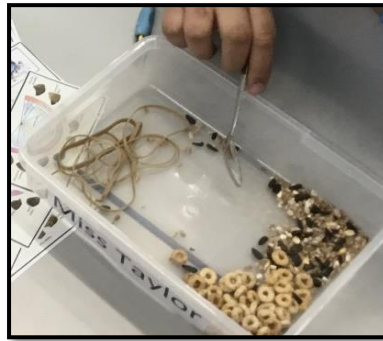
Alfred the Great	Alfred the not-so-great
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• He made peace, with the English and Vikings settling in England• Encouraged people to learn.• Despite illness, he outlived his brothers• He governed people fairly• Regrouped and raised an Anglo-Saxon army to defeat the Vikings in the battle of Edington.• Agreed a peace treaty to split England in two - Danelaw and Wessex.• Created coins which said Alfred was the 'King of the English'.• Translated books from Latin into English so more people could understand.• Won a competition against his brothers to recite the book, earning the book as prize• Ordered monks to begin the Anglo-Saxon chronicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fought Vikings• Was never expected to be king.• When Guthrum, the Viking warrior, came for Alfred, he fled to Somerset.• Alfred had chronic illnesses his whole life.• Due to being scared of being defeat, he gave land to the Vikings.• He lost the battle to the Vikings, and lost Wessex.



Year 6

In this week's science lesson, the children were given equipment, which represented different types of beaks and different food types.

Using one 'beak' and one 'food' at a time, the children explored how 'beak' shapes affect the 'food' that could be eaten by the finches on the Galapagos Islands. This investigation helped them to understand Darwin's scientific work on evolution.



PE News

KS2 Sportshall Athletics Finals

This week our Year 3&4 and Year 5&6 Sportshall Athletics teams competed in the Crewe and Nantwich Sportshall Athletics finals at Shavington Academy Brine Leas High School. Our Year 3&4 team finished in 4th place and our Year 5&6 team finished in 5th Place. A fantastic achievement. Well done to all!



Art News

Creativity and The Kindness Revolution

As a KiVa school, kindness is always top of our agenda, but we are really celebrating it between now and Valentine's Day!



We are holding a Kindness Revolution this half term, to encourage our school community to “commit acts of KiVa kindness” in school and at home, so we can really change the world for ourselves, our friends and our families! Children who teachers catch in an act of kindness will go on our kindness wall to encourage others to follow their example. We want to celebrate children's kindness and so we'll be generous with dojos, raffle tickets stickers and postcards home! If parents catch children being kind at home too and happen to photograph it, feel free to send the picture by email to admin@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk or lwalsh@wistastonacademytrust.co.uk and we will print it and add it to our kindness wall 😊

This will all culminate with a special “Day to Create” on **WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11TH!!**

We will celebrate kindness through:

- Painting with artist Victoria Turner
- Drumming with Mr Proctor
- Family yoga sessions based on the love chakra with Fiona Sherwood from Musicbox Mediations
- Art lessons with Mrs Walsh
- Learning through drama with class teachers
- Singing in assembly with Mr Wilson
- And a visit from Arts Council England, who want to capture the creative joy that runs through our school!
- What a half term is ahead! 🎉



Keep a look out for special invitations from individual classes to participate with your children on **Wednesday 11th February!**

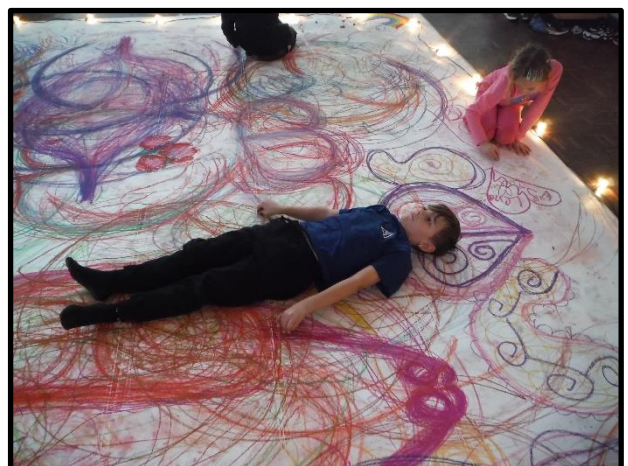
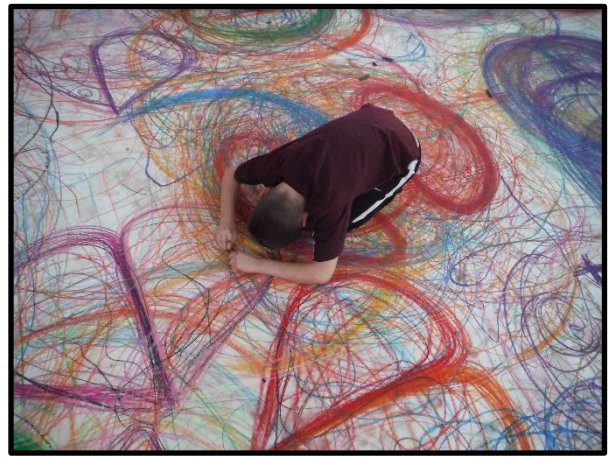
Let's remember:



Focus on Year 4

Kinetic Art

Year 4 had a special experience this week, creating kinetic art in a meditative atmosphere. We downloaded our movements in response to music using oil pastels on paper. We worked silently and enjoyed creating patterns while stretching and moving. We took our inspiration from artist Heather Hansen and our patterns will later form the basis of a mixed-media piece.



Parent Call Out!

We are aware that it's not just our children who are artists, but many of our parents too! If you are creative and would like to inspire our school community by exhibiting some of your own artwork in our up-coming Spring Exhibition, please speak to Mrs Walsh or email on lwash@wistastonacademytrsut.co.uk

Any size, theme and medium are valid.



Picture News

Every week in assembly we share the Picture News image and question with the children. This resource helps children to learn about the world around us, whilst linking to British Values and supporting pupil's personal development.

We hope this enables you to have an interesting conversation at home with your child.

TAKEHOME 26th January - 1st February



Does how we behave matter as much as how well we play?

In the news this week

The Football Association (FA) has published a review looking at behaviour in football across England. It wants to ensure football practice and matches are safe, fair, and enjoyable for everyone, including players, referees, and fans. The review encourages all involved in the sport to play their part in supporting and following values of positive behaviour.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your experiences of sporting or other competitive events with someone at home. Have you ever felt strong feelings when watching or taking part?
- Do you believe players and fans should have the same rules about respect?
- Discuss what you think might happen if winning becomes more important than respect.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



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Maths News

All children from Reception through to KS2 have access to an app called **Numbots**. This fantastic app supports children with their number fluency, allowing them to use efficient mental calculation strategies to add/subtract, so they don't rely on using their fingers!

If your child is in KS2 they will also have access to an app called **Times Table Rocks Stars (TTRS)**, which supports knowledge of times tables and therefore builds confidence in multiplication and division.

Evidence tells us that logging on for **just a few minutes each day** will make a massive difference to their number fluency/times tables skills.

Check out the dedicated website for parents to answer any questions on TTRS:

<https://ttrockstars.com/parents/> , and the factsheet of FAQ's for Numbots:

<https://static.numbots.com/data/pdf/NumBotslaunchparentguide.pdf> and

https://strapi.ttrockstars.com/uploads/numbots_parent_guide_554ecf5cb5.pdf

